



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION VI
1201 ELM STREET
DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

September 12, 1979

The Honorable Bill Clinton
Governor of Arkansas
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: Georgia-Pacific Corporation, Crossett, Arkansas
NPDES Permit No. AR0001210

Dear Governor Clinton:

I have received your letter dated August 28, 1979 in which you raised various questions concerning the above named facility. I appreciate your interest in this matter and hope this letter will satisfactorily answer your questions.

In 1973, Coffee Creek was identified by the State of Arkansas as a Class B stream with a 2.0 milligrams per liter (mg/l) dissolved oxygen standard. In 1975, the State's standards were revised, but no changes were made to the designation of Coffee Creek. The currently effective National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit was issued in December 1974, and was written to meet the water quality standards of the Ouachita River. However, we have recently proposed that the newly issued permit, which will become effective in December 1979, impose adequate provisions to insure that the water quality standards of Coffee Creek are met. We have proposed these terms in light of our determination that Coffee Creek is a water of the United States. Georgia-Pacific has requested an adjudicatory hearing to dispute our finding, and it has been granted.

As you are probably aware, members of my staff and the Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology met on September 11, 1979, to discuss alternatives that would enable Georgia-Pacific to operate within the parameters of EPA standards and limitations. However, I must point out, that the alternatives discussed center upon the Department's re-examination of the water quality standards for Coffee Creek.

Again, I appreciate your concern and if I can be of further assistance please let me know.

Sincerely,

/s/ Adlene Harrison

Adlene Harrison
Regional Administrator